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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/313,916	05/18/1999	THEODORE DAVID WUGOFSKI	98-0655	4454

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EXAMINER	
SORRELL, ERON J	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2182	

DATE MAILED: 05/14/2003 4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/313,916	WUGOFSKI, THEODORE DAVID	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Eron J Sorrell	2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *18 May 1999* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-4,12-15,23-26,31-34, and 36-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Iwamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,883,621).

3. Referring to method claim 1, computer readable medium claim 12, system claim 23, Iwamura teaches a method and system for generating a model representing devices and interconnections of the devices within an information handling system and using the model to control devices, comprising:

means for identifying first and second devices connected to the information handling system (see abstract);

means for storing first device object representing the first identified device and a second device object representing the second identified device (see lines 8-20 of column 2);

means for identifying an interconnection between the first identified device and the second identified device (see abstract); and

means for storing an interconnect object representing the interconnection between the first identified device with the second identified device, wherein the stored first and second device objects and interconnect object form at least part of the model (see lines 8-20 of column 2).

4. Referring to method claim 2, computer readable medium claim 13, system claim 24, system claim 32, and system claim 37, Iwamura teaches the method and system further comprise steps and means to use the model to control operation of at least one of the first and the second device (see abstract).

5. Referring to method claim 3, computer readable medium claim 14, system claim 25, Iwamura teaches the method and system further comprise steps and means for identifying an input of at least one of the first and the second device (see lines 20-33 of column 3); and

means for storing and input object in the model representing the identified input (see lines 20-33 of column 3);

6. Referring to method claim 4, computer readable medium claim 15, system claim 26, Iwamura teaches the method and system further comprise steps and means for identifying an output of at least one of the first and the second device (see lines 20-33 of column 3); and

means for storing and output object in the model representing the identified input (see lines 20-33 of column 3);

7. Referring to system claim 31 and system claim 36, Iwamura teaches a computer-based information handling system having one or more peripheral devices interconnected therewith, the information handling system comprising:

a central processing system for processing information (see item labeled 208 in figure 2a and lines 8-9 of column 4);

a memory interconnected with the central processing system for storing information (see item labeled 304 in figure 2a);

a display system interconnected with the central processing system for displaying information (see item labeled TV Monitor in figure 2a);

and input/output system interconnected with the processing system for inputting and outputting information (see item labeled 224 in figure 2a); and

a system for generating a model representing devices and interconnections of the devices within an information handling system and using the model to control the devices, comprising:

a user interface for providing communication with a user to identify devices interconnected with the information handling system (see lines 8-20 of column 2); and

a model generator for generating a model representing the identified devices and the interconnection of the identified devices with each other and the information handling system (see lines 8-20 of column 2).

8. Referring to system claim 32 and system claim 37, Iwamura discloses the system further comprises a system controller for using the generated model to control operation of at least one of the identified devices (see abstract).

9. Referring to system claim 33 and system claim 38, Iwamura teaches the system further comprises a graphical user interface displayed on a display of the information handling system (see lines 8-20 of column 2).

10. Referring to system claim 34 and system claim 39, Iwamura teaches the user interface further comprises an audio interface (see lines 20-33 of column 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 5-9,11,16-20,22,27,28,30,35, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamura in view of Hamner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,076,106 hereinafter Hamner).

13. Referring to method claim 5, computer readable medium claim 16, system claim 27, Iwamura fails to disclose the method and system further comprises identifying steps and means comprising querying a user to identify the first and second devices.

Hamner discloses a system and method for identification of devices and there interconnections comprising identifying steps

and means comprising querying a user to identify the first and second devices (see lines 48-54 of column 3).

It would have been obvious to modify the method and system of Iwamura with the teachings of Hamner such that it comprises identifying steps and means comprising querying a user to identify the first and second devices. Such modification would allow a user to manually enter the network configuration or modify it when such modification is desired.

14. Referring to method claim 6 and computer readable medium claim 17, Iwamura discloses a user interface for communicating information with a user (see item labeled TV Monitor in figure 2a).

15. Referring to method claim 7, system claim 19, Hamner teaches the querying step can be initiated by the user (see lines 48-54 of column 3).

16. Referring to method claim 8, system claim 20, Hamner teaches the querying step can be initiated by the information handling system (see lines 48-54 of column 3).

17. Referring to method claim 9, system claim 18, and system claim 28, Hamner teaches the identifying step further comprises querying the user to set an attribute of at least one of the first and second devices (see lines 30-47 of column 6).

18. Referring to method claim 11, computer readable medium claim 22, and system claims 30,35, and 40. Both Iwamura and Hamner fail to teach that the model is stored in persistent memory, however Hamner discloses the connectivity information is stored in a database (see lines 25-29 of column 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Hamner such that the database discloses is persistent memory. This would allow all of the information stored in the database to be available if power is removed from the system.

19. Claims 10,21, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamura in view of Hamner as applied to claims 5,16, and 27 and further in view of Humpleman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,546,419).

20. Referring to method claim 10, and system claims 21 and 29, Both Iwamura and Hamner fail to disclose that identifying steps and means further comprises querying the user to specify if at least one of the devices can be controlled by remote control, however Hamner discloses querying the user for attribute information (see lines 30-47 of column 6).

Humpleman discloses an attribute table for storing device attributes that can be inspected by other devices in the network (see lines 53-60 of column 9). Humpleman doesn't explicitly set forth the limitation that one of the attributes is whether or not the device can be controlled by remote control, but Humpleman does suggest attributes pertinent to the device can be added to the attribute table as needed (see lines 53-60 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to further modify method and system of Iwamura with the teachings of Humpleman such that the identifying steps and means further comprises querying the user to specify if at least one of the devices can be controlled by remote control. One would have been motivated to make such modification in order to have a complete set of functional attributes a device has as suggested by Humpleman.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is reminded that in amending in response to a rejection of claims, the patentable novelty must be clearly shown in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited and the objections made. Applicant must also show how the amendments avoid such references and objections. See 37 CFR § 1.111(c).

The following references have been cited to further show the state of the art as it pertains to network connectivity display systems:

U.S. Patent No. 6,332,159 to Hatae et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,452,935 to Gibbs

U.S. Patent No. 6,529,951 to Okuyama et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eron J Sorrell whose telephone number is 703 305-7800. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffery A Gaffin can be reached on 703 308-3301. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned

are 703 746-7239 for regular communications and 703 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305-3900.

EJS
May 9, 2003

JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100